UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF SRI LANKA

IPF:(1992-96) $45 077 000

(SRL/91/003) - Second Badulla Integrated Rural Development Programme

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	18 November 1992
Expected duration:	Five years
Proposed executing agency:	UNDP/OPS Regional Development Division,
Government implementing agent:	Ministry of Policy Planning and Implementation
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$ 1 406 400 Source of Funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$ 1 406 400

Project background

Integrated Rural Development Programmes (IRDP) feature prominently in the Government of Sri Lanka's (GOSL) strategy for developing under-developed rural and suburban areas. About two-thirds of the country's 25 districts have been IRDPs supported by various bilateral as well as multilateral donors. The IRDPs, as its name implies, constitute an economic and social development programme in a given region through improved infrastructure and other facilities, resulting in increasing opportunities for, inter alia, greater employment and family incomes. The Government is continuing to work with donors to formulate new IRDPs given the considerable experience it has acquired in the management of IRDPs and their ability to coordinate and monitor sectoral initiatives.

The First Badulla Integrated Rural Development Programme (FBIRDP) was financed by IFAD and SIDA as two separate projects but implemented by the same project management as one comprehensive IRDP for the District. The investment components were agricultural development and credit, livestock development, rehabilitation of medium-scale irrigation works, rural roads and water supply and project coordination and support funded by IFAD and education, health, estate sector support funded by SIDA. By August 1990, the project actions had benefited 22,000 families, well over the 16,000 originally targeted. Whilst the project has explored and established ways to direct investment to the poor, it is recognized that channelling of benefits specifically to the poor had been adversely affected due to adhering to a sectoral and 'blue print' approach.

The SBIRDP, which is directly linked to a $14.0 million IFAD loan, is markedly different from FBIRDP and is based on "Community Mobilisation" (CM). Whilst the experience to-date of the use of CM methods are somewhat limited, it has been to give much greater positive results in alleviating poverty in the rural areas in which it has been tried. It primarily addresses the twin problems of widespread rural poverty and malnutrition, and the need for the establishment of an effective mechanism that allocates resources according to the needs and wishes of the district's poorest people. The secondary problems that the SBIRDP addresses include low farm productivity, soil erosion, inefficiencies of irrigation tanks, limited access to some hamlets, poor drinking water supply, scarcity of skills in agro-processing and off-farm income-generating activities, the relative inaccessibility by

[1/] **This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.**

the poor to reward saving schemes and affordable credit.

Description of project

The development objectives of the project are to:(a) alleviate poverty and improve food security and nutrition with a particular focus on the poorest rural households by creating on-farm and off-farm income generating opportunities; (b) develop a system of participatory planning and resource allocation with a focus on poverty alleviation, community mobilization and responsive government services; and (c) strengthen the planning, managerial and technical capability of the Uva Provincial Council.

The immediate objectives of the project are to : (a) establish capacity building at the Uva Provincial Council, the Divisional Secretariats (specially Badulla and neighbouring districts) in regional planning and development, especially in community-based development; and (b)enhance capacities in the agriculture institutions for extension, trials and demonstrations (adaptive research, conservation and technical training), and the Department of Small Industries in planning, marketing and training of pertaining to the Uva Province and Badulla district, in particular.

Project activities will include :(a) analyzing, testing, adapting and implementing a methodology in the field of CM; (b) training 28 Plan Implementation Officers (PIOs) and about 700 community mobilizers (c) establishing and strengthening women's groups; (d) training staff of relevant agencies in various aspects of rural development, on-farm and off-farm income generating activities, conservation farming, land management and handicraft development and promotion; and (e) establishing a mix of national and international consultancies, fellowships and in-country short training programmes, studies, and use of computerized management information, monitoring and financial control packages.

Inputs

UNDP will provide a total 40 work-months of international consultancies: out-reach technology specialists three work-months; land use/conservation specialists, four work-months; non-farm training specialists three work-months; a regional planner fifteen work-months; a procurement consultant three work-months; a research agronomist six work-months; and monitoring and evaluation specialists six work-months; national consultancies 283 work - months); a UNV WID specialist (24 work-months); a lump sum of US$275,000 allocated under a training fund for in-country training ; in-country training and short-term overseas training; and equipment.

Financial data

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Personnel	931 400
Subcontract	130 000
Training	275 000
Equipment	20 000
Miscellaneous	50 000
Total	1 406 400

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